

House Republican Press Release

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Rep. Ferrari: Help Available for Military Families in Need



Active duty military families experiencing hardship because of a family member's service may be eligible for financial assistance through the Connecticut Military Department, state Representative Richard F. Ferrari, R-62nd District, announced today.

The Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF), established by the Connecticut General Assembly, will be administered by the Connecticut Military Department.

"It is not unusual for military families – particularly those with more than one child - to experience financial hardship at one time or another," Representative Ferrari said. "Members of Connecticut National Guard and reserve units called to active duty and regular active duty personnel often serve their country at great personal risk, especially if they are posted to Iraq or Afghanistan. They should not have to be concerned about their families' well-being if they are assigned to bases elsewhere in the United States or overseas. If you are a military spouse experiencing financial difficulties while your husband or wife is away from home, the MFRF is there for you. The state legislature established the program with you and your family in mind and I urge you to take advantage of it if the need should arise."

"The intention of the MFRF is to aid Connecticut's "active-duty" military families experiencing a hardship relative to a family member's military service," said Maj. Gen. Thaddeus J. Martin, Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard. In addition to regular active duty service members, the program includes families of service members in the National Guard and Reserves who are serving on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Applications are available through the State Military Department Office at the National Guard Armory in Hartford. The application also may be downloaded from the Military Department website at <http://www.ct.gov/mil/mfrf>. Once an application is received; it is reviewed by the MFRF committee to ensure the applicant's eligibility and to determine the amount of the award. Awards are capped at \$5,000 unless exceptional circumstances warrant otherwise and it is approved by unanimous vote of the committee. All applications are processed within one week of receipt of the application by the Military Department.

If you have questions about the MFRF please call (860) 524-4910.